

The List of Porcine Semen Collection Centers Approved to Export porcine semen to the EU is as follows:

Pig Improvement Company
Oklahoma Boar Stud
Hennessey, Ok APHIS approval id: 94OK001

Pig Improvement Company
Wisconsin AID Stud
Spring Green, WI APHIS approval id: 96WI001

United Swine Genetics
Roanoke, IL APHIS approval id: 95IL001

ANNEX A

CHAPTER 1

CONDITIONS FOR THE APPROVAL OF SEMEN COLLECTION CENTERS

1. Semen collection centers must:

- (a) be placed under the permanent supervision of a center veterinarian;
- (b) have at least
 - (i) animal housing including isolation facilities,
 - (ii) semen collection facilities including a separate room for the cleaning and disinfection or sterilization of equipment;
 - (iii) a semen processing room which need not necessarily be on the same site,
 - (iv) a semen storage room which need not necessarily be on the same site;
- (c) be so constructed or isolated that contact with livestock outside is prevented;
- (d) be so constructed that the animal housing and the semen collecting, processing and storage facilities can be readily cleaned and disinfected;
- (e) have isolation accommodation which shall have no direct communication with the normal animal accommodation;
- (f) be so designed that the animal accommodation is physically separated from the semen processing room and both are separated from the semen storage room.

CHAPTER II

CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE SUPERVISION OF SEMEN COLLECTION CENTERS

1. The collection centers must:

- (a) be so supervised that they contain only male animals of the species whose semen is to be collected;
- (b) be so supervised that a record, file or computer record is kept of all porcine animals at the center, giving details of the breed, date of birth and identification of each of the animals, and also a record, file or computer record of all checks for

diseases and all vaccinations carried out, giving also information from the disease/health file of each animal;

- (c) be regularly inspected by an official veterinarian, at least twice a year, at which time checks on the conditions of approval and supervision shall be carried out;
- (d) be so supervised that the entry of unauthorized persons is prevented. Furthermore, authorized visitors must be required to comply with the conditions laid down by the center veterinarian;
- (e) employ technically competent staff suitably trained in disinfection procedures and hygiene techniques relevant to the control of the spread of disease;
- (f) be so supervised that:
 - (i) only semen collected at an approved center is processed and stored in approved centers, without coming into contact with any other consignment of semen,
 - (ii) collection, processing and storage of semen takes place only on the premises set aside for the purpose and under conditions of the strictest hygiene,
 - (iii) all implements which come into contact with the semen or the donor animal during collection and processing are properly disinfected or sterilized prior to use,
 - (iv) products of animal origin used in the processing of semen - including additives or a diluent - are obtained from sources which present no animal health risk or are so treated prior to use that such risk is prevented,
 - (v) storage flasks and transport flasks are properly disinfected or sterilized before the beginning of each filling operation,
 - (vi) the cryogenic agent used has not been previously used for other products of animal origin,
 - (vii) each collection of semen, whether or not it is separated into individual doses, is clearly marked in such a way that the date of collection of the semen and the breed and identification of the donor animal, as well as the name and the registration number of the center, preceded by the name of the country of origin, where appropriate, in the form of a code, can be readily established; the characteristics and form of this marking will be established under the procedure laid down in Article 19.

ANNEX B

CHAPTER 1

CONDITIONS APPLYING TO THE ADMISSION OF ANIMALS TO APPROVED SEMEN COLLECTION CENTERS

1. All boars admitted to a semen collection center must:
 - (a) have been subjected to a period of isolation of at least 30 days in accommodation specifically approved for the purpose by the competent authority of the Member State, and where only boars having at least the same health status are present;
 - (b) prior to their entering the isolation accommodation described in (a) have been chosen from herds or holdings:
 - (i) which are officially free of classical swine fever,
 - (ii) which are free of brucellosis,
 - (iii) in which no animal vaccinated against foot-and-mouth disease has been present in the preceding 12 months,
 - (iv) in which no clinical, serological or virological sign of Aujeszky's disease has been detected in the preceding 12 months,
 - (v) which are not covered by any prohibition in accordance with the requirements of Directive 64/432/EEC with regard to African swine fever, swine vesicular disease, Teschen's disease and foot-and-mouth disease.

The animals may not previously have been kept in other herds of a lower status;

 - (c) before the period of isolation specified in (a), and within the previous 30 days, have been subjected to the following tests with negative results:
 - (i) a complement fixation test carried out in accordance with the provisions of Annex C of Directive 64/432/EEC in respect of brucellosis,
 - (ii) a serum neutralization or an ELISA test for Aujeszky's disease using all the viral antigens in the case of non-vaccinated pigs,

an ELISA test for GI antigens in the case of pigs vaccinated for Aujeszky's disease with a GI deleted vaccine,

- (iii) an ELISA test or a serum neutralization test for the presence of classical swine fever.

The competent authority may give authorization for the tests referred to in (c) to be carried out in the isolation accommodation, provided that the results are known before the beginning of the 30-day isolation period laid down in (d);

- (d) during the period of isolation of at least 30 days specified in (a), have been subjected to the following tests with negative results:
 - (i) a serum agglutination test complying with the procedure laid down in Annex C to Directive 64/432/EEC and showing a brucella count lower than 30 IU of agglutination per milliliter and a complement fixation test showing a brucella count lower than 20 EEC units per milliliter (20 ICFT units) in the case of animals coming from brucellosis-free herds,
 - (ii) a serum neutralization or an ELISA test for Aujeszky's disease using all the viral antigens in the case of non-vaccinated pigs,

an ELISA test for GI antigens in the case of pigs vaccinated for Aujeszky's disease with a GI deleted vaccine,
 - (iii) a microscopic agglutination test for the presence of leptospirosis (sero-vars pomona, grippotyphosa, tarassovi, hardjo, bratislava and ballum serum viruses), or have been treated for leptospirosis with two injections of streptomycin at an interval of 14 days (25 mg per kg of live body weight).

Without prejudice to the provisions applicable in cases where foot-and-mouth disease and swine fever is found, if any of the above tests should prove positive, the animal must be removed forthwith from the isolation accommodation. In the case of group isolation, the competent authority must take all necessary measures to allow the remaining animals to be admitted to the collection center in accordance with this Annex.

2. All tests must be carried out in a laboratory approved by the Member State.

3. Animals may only be admitted to the semen collection center with the express permission of the center veterinarian. All animal movements, both in and out, must be recorded.
4. No animal admitted to the semen collection center may show any clinical sign of disease on the day of admission; all animals must, without prejudice to paragraph 5, have come from isolation accommodation as referred to in paragraph 1(a) which, on the day of consignment, officially fulfills the following conditions:
 - (a) is situated in the center of an area of 10 kilometers radius in which there has been no case of foot-and-mouth disease or swine fever for at least 30 days;
 - (b) has for at least 3 months been free from foot-and-mouth disease and brucellosis;
 - (c) has for at least 30 days been free from Aujeszky's disease and from those porcine diseases which are compulsorily notifiable in accordance with Annex E to Directive 64/432/EEC.
5. Provided that the conditions laid down in paragraph 4 are satisfied and the routine tests referred to in Chapter II have been carried out during the previous 12 months, animals may be transferred from one approved semen collection center to another of equal health status without isolation or testing if transfer is direct. The animal in question must not come into direct or indirect contact with cloven-hoofed animals of a lower health status and the means of transport used must have been disinfected before use. If the movement from one semen collection center to another takes place between Member States, it must take place in accordance with Directive 64/432/EEC.

CHAPTER II

COMPULSORY ROUTINE TESTS FOR BOARS KEPT AT AN APPROVED SEMEN COLLECTION CENTER

1. All boars kept at an approved semen collection center must be subjected when leaving the center to the following tests with negative results:
 - (i) a serum neutralization or an ELISA test for Aujeszky's disease using all the viral antigens in the case of non-vaccinated pigs,

an ELISA test for GI antigens in the case of pigs vaccinated for Aujeszky's disease with a GI deleted vaccine,
 - (ii) a complement fixation test conducted in accordance with Annex C to Directive 64/432/EEC regarding brucellosis,
 - (iii) an ELISA test or serum neutralization test for the presence of classical swine fever.

In addition, boars kept more than 12 months at the collection center must be subjected to the tests referred to in points (i) and (ii) not later than 18 months after their admission.

2. All tests must be carried out in a laboratory approved by the Member State.
3. Without prejudice to the provisions applicable in cases where foot-and-mouth disease or swine fever is found, if any of the above tests should prove positive, the animal must be isolated and the semen collected from it since the last negative test may not be the subject of intra-Community trade.

Semen collected from all other animals at the center since the date when the positive test was carried out shall be held in separate storage and may not be the subject of intra-Community trade until the health status of the center has been re-established.

ANNEX C

CONDITIONS WHICH SEMEN COLLECTED AT APPROVED CENTERS MUST SATISFY FOR THE PURPOSES OF INTRA-COMMUNITY TRADE

1. Semen must be obtained from animals which:
 - (a) show no clinical signs of disease on the day the semen is collected;
 - (b) have not been vaccinated against foot-and-mouth disease;

- (c) satisfy the requirements of Annex B, Chapter I;
 - (d) are not allowed to serve naturally;
 - (e) are kept in semen collection centers which have been free from foot-and-mouth disease for at least three months prior to dispatching of the semen, and are situated in the center of an area of 10 kilometers radius in which for at least 30 days there has been no case of foot-and-mouth disease; furthermore the centers must not be situated in a restricted area designated under the provisions of the Directives relating to contagious diseases of the porcine species;
 - (f) have been kept in semen collection centers which, during the 30-day period immediately prior to collection, have been free from those porcine diseases which are compulsorily notifiable in accordance with Annex E to Directive 64/432/EEC and from Aujeszky's disease.
2. An effective combination of antibiotics, in particular against leptospires and mycoplasmas, must be added to the semen after final dilution. This combination must produce an effect at least equivalent to the following dilutions:
- not less than: 500 IU per ml streptomycin,
500 IU per ml penicillin,
150 ug per ml lincomycin,
300 ug per ml spectinomycin.
- Immediately after the addition of the antibiotics the diluted semen must be kept at a temperature of at least 15 °C for a period of not less than 45 minutes.
3. Semen for intra-Community trade must:
- (i) be stored as laid down in Chapters I and II of Annex A prior to dispatch;
 - (ii) be transported to the Member State of destination in flasks which have been cleaned and disinfected or sterilized before use and which have been sealed prior to dispatch from the approved storage facilities.

Health Certificate No. _____
(Valid Only if the USDA Veterinary
Seal Appears Over the Certificate #)

The health certificate that follows is to be used as a guide only. The actual health certificate to be used must be obtained, in the official language of the importing Member State, by the importer from the Ministry of Agriculture of the particular importing country.

ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR THE IMPORT OF PORCINE
SEMEN FROM THE UNITED STATES INTO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (EC)

1. Consignor (name and full address): _____

2. Third country of collection: United States of America

3. Consignee (name and full address): _____

Notes:

- (a) A separate certificate must be issued for each consignment of semen
- (b) The original of the certificate must accompany the consignment to the place of destination

4. Competent authority: USDA, APHIS

5. Competent local authority: Veterinary Services (Name of State)

6. Place of loading: _____

7. Name and address of semen collection center: _____

8. Means of transport: _____

9. Place and Member State of destination: _____

10. Registration number of semen collection center: _____

Health Certificate No. _____
(Valid Only if the USDA Veterinary
Seal Appears Over the Certificate #)

11. Number and code-mark of semen containers: _____

12. Identification of semen: _____

a. Number of doses: _____

b. Date(s) of collection: _____

c. Breed: _____

d. Identification of donor animal: _____

13. I, the undersigned official veterinarian, certify that:

(a) the United States has, during the past 24 months, been free from foot-and-mouth disease and, during the past 12 months, has been free from classical swine fever, African swine fever, swine vesicular disease or porcine enteroviral encephalomyelitis (Teschén disease), and that no vaccinations have been carried out against any of these diseases during the past 12 months;

(b) the semen collection center on which the semen to be exported was collected:

(i) is approved for export to the Community by the veterinary services of the United States and fulfills the requirements of Chapters I and II of Annex A to Council Directive 90/429/EEC;

(ii) was on the day the semen to be exported was collected, situated in the center of an area of 20 km in diameter in which, during the period commencing 3 months prior to the date of collection until the date of dispatch, there was no evidence of foot-and-mouth disease, classical swine fever, African swine fever, swine vesicular disease, porcine enteroviral encephalomyelitis (Teschén disease) or vesicular stomatitis;

(iii) was, during the period commencing 30 days prior to the date of collection of the semen to be exported until its date of dispatch, free from clinical signs of tuberculosis, brucellosis, Aujeszky's disease, leptospirosis, rabies;

- (iv) either contains animals that have not been vaccinated against Aujeszky's disease and which have reacted negatively to the serum neutralization test or to the ELISA for Aujeszky's disease,

or

in which some or all of the boars have been vaccinated against Aujeszky's disease using a G1 deleted vaccine; such boars having been seronegative with regard to Aujeszky's disease before vaccination, and subjected not sooner than three weeks later to a further serological examination which did not reveal the presence of antibodies induced by the disease virus.

14. Prior to entering the semen collection center, all boars have undergone a period of 30 days isolation in accommodation which:

- (a) is situated in the center of an area of 10 km radius in which there has been no case of foot-and-mouth disease and classical swine fever for at least 30 days;
- (b) has, for at least 3 months, been free from foot-and-mouth disease and brucellosis;
- (c) has, for at least 30 days, been free from Aujeszky's disease and those porcine diseases listed in Annex E to Council Directive 64/432/EEC;

during the last 15 days of which they were subjected to the following tests with negative results:

- (d) a serum agglutination test for brucellosis showing a brucella count of less than 30 IU of agglutination per ml;
- (e) a complement fixation test showing a brucella count of less than 20 ICFT units per ml;
- (f) (i) a serum neutralization test or an ELISA for Aujeszky's disease using all viral antigens;

or

- (ii) an ELISA for G1 antigens in the case of pigs vaccinated FOR Aujeszky's disease with a G1 deleted vaccine;

- (g) a microscopic agglutination test for leptospirosis (sero-vars pomona, grippotyphosa, tarassovi, hardjo, bratislava and ballum) or have been given two injections at an interval of 14 days of streptomycin at the rate of 25 mg per kg of body weight.
15. Prior to entering the isolation accommodation, all boars standing at the approved semen collection center originated in holdings/herds which;
- (a) were free from classical swine fever;
 - (b) were free from brucellosis;
 - (c) contained no animal vaccinated against foot-and-mouth disease in the preceding 12 months;
 - (d) showed no clinical, serological or virological sign of Aujeszky's disease during the preceding 12 months;
 - (e) were not subject to any restriction for animal health reasons on the day the boar entered the isolation and, within 30 days prior to entering the isolation accommodation, were subjected to the following tests with negative results;
 - (f) a complement fixation test for brucellosis showing a brucella count of less than 20 ICFT units per ml;
 - (g)
 - (i) a serum neutralization test or an ELISA for Aujeszky's disease using all viral antigens in the case of non-vaccinated pigs;
 - or
 - (ii) an ELISA for G1 antigens in the case of pigs vaccinated for Aujeszky's disease with a G1 deleted vaccine;
 - (h) a serum neutralization test or ELISA for classical swine fever.
16. All boars leaving the center have been subjected to the following tests with negative results:
- (a)
 - (i) a serum neutralization test or ELISA for Aujeszky's disease in the case of non-vaccinated pigs;
 - or

- (ii) an ELISA for G1 antigens for Aujeszky's disease in the case of vaccinated pigs;
- (b) a complement fixation test for brucellosis showing a brucella count of less than 20 ICFT units per ml;
- (c) a serum neutralization test or ELISA for classical swine fever

and all boars kept more than 12 months at the semen collection center have been subjected to the tests at (a) and (b) above not later than 18 months after admission and every 12 months thereafter.

17. The semen to be exported was obtained from boars which:

- (a) have been resident in the United States (name of the third country) for a minimum period of 3 months immediately prior to collection;
- (b) have been kept in the approved center for the 30 days immediately prior to collection;
- (c) are not allowed to serve naturally;
- (d) are not vaccinated for foot-and-mouth disease;
- (e) showed no clinical sign of disease on the day of collection.

18. The semen to be exported:

- (a) was treated with a mixture of antibiotics in particular against leptospire and mycoplasmas having at least equivalent effect to the following:
 - 500 IU per ml of streptomycin
 - 500 IU per ml of penicillin
 - 150 ug per ml of lincomycin
 - 300 ug per ml of spectinomycin,
- (b) was, immediately after the addition of antibiotics, kept at a temperature of at least 15 °C for not less than 45 minutes,
- (c) was stored and transported in flasks each marked with the registration number of the semen collection center, with the date of collection, the breed and identity of the donor boar and which had been cleaned and disinfected before use and which have been sealed prior to dispatch.

Health Certificate No. _____
(Valid Only if the USDA Veterinary
Seal Appears Over the Certificate #)

Name of USDA accredited veterinarian

Signature of USDA accredited veterinarian

Date issued

Name of the Official Federal Veterinarian

Signature¹ of the Official Federal Veterinarian

Date endorsed

Place: _____ Official Stamp

Name and qualification (in block letters) of Official Federal Veterinarian:

¹The signature and the stamp must be in a color different to that of the printing.